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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Austria

SUBJECT USIA Activities in Textile Industry

ORIGIN

DATE:

EVALUATE We

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DIST. 24 November 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Engineer Alexander Fuchs was called by Sagarin, chief and

1. Engineer Alexander Fuchs was called to USIA [redacted] by Utkin and Sagarin, chief and deputy chief of the USIA Light Industry Division. Utkin explained that the Russians desire to step up the textile industry in their zone. They need a representative to obtain [redacted] cotton, [redacted] yarns, and rags. They suggested these goods be obtained in small quantities on an experimental basis by Krause and Company, a firm operated under the direction of the Degos trading company, with Fuchs as chief. About 50 tons of cotton, 30 tons of yarn, and 20 tons of rags are to be bought [redacted] to sell them [redacted] possible [redacted]

2. [redacted] as chief. [redacted] under the direction of the Degos
[redacted] of rags are to be bought: About 50 tons of cotton, 30 tons of yarn,
[redacted] to sell three million schillings worth of textile goods as soon as
possible. He said that the present devaluation of the Austrian currency will have
no effect on the Russians. Utkin upheld this view and stated that the currency
devaluation applied to the Austrians and not to the Russians, who would lose nothing
in the exchange.
[redacted] to countries in the east. [redacted] the Russian
Engineer [redacted]

3. [redacted] this view and stated that the currency will be used by the Austrians and not to the Russians, who would lose not only the exchange, but also the market for their goods.
- [redacted] the Russians will sell textiles for schillings to countries in the eastern bloc, as they have no immediate outlet for their goods.
- Engineer Fuchs is to attempt to arrange trade connections with [redacted] countries.
- [redacted]

4. [redacted] to arrange trade connections [redacted] [redacted] for schilling;
[redacted] the Soviets have in-
sufficient textile capacity in their factories in Austria to develop a large tex-
tile industry. Utkin is reported to have said that capacity and quality would be
improved by the imminent requisitioning of the Voelzlauer Kamagarn-Fabrik, AG, in
Bad Voelzlau. The present manager of the Voelzlau textile plant and chief of the
Textilverband is Meyer-Gunthof, [redacted] Com-
ment: Meyer-Gunthof has been one of most prosperous among the Austrians colla-
borating with the Russians. If he is tossed out, it might have a constructive
effect on other Austrians. However, the loss of the Voelzlau textile plant to
the Russians will be a big blow to the Austrian textile industry.

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